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CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

BY: **EC** DEPUTY

ORIGINAL

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

'08 CV 1361 JM NLS

NOEMEE GABISAN, on behalf of herself,
and on behalf of all persons similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

PELICAN PRODUCTS, INC.; and, Does 1 to
10,

Defendants.

CASE No.

CLASS AND COLLECTIVE ACTION
COMPLAINT FOR:

1. FAILURE TO PAY COMPENSATION IN
VIOLATION OF 29 U.S.C. § 201, *et seq.*;

2. FAILURE TO PAY WAGES IN
VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE §§ 510,
515, 551, 552, 1182, 1194, 1197 AND 1198,
et seq.;

3. FAILURE TO PROVIDE WAGES WHEN
DUE IN VIOLATION OF CAL. LAB. CODE
§ 203;

4. FAILURE TO PROVIDE ACCURATE
ITEMIZED STATEMENTS IN VIOLATION
OF CAL. LAB. CODE § 226;

5. UNFAIR COMPETITION IN
VIOLATION OF CAL. BUS. & PROF.
CODE § 17200, *et seq.*; and

DEMAND FOR A JURY TRIAL

1 Plaintiff Noemee Gabisan alleges on information and belief, except for her own acts and
2 knowledge, the following:

3 **NATURE OF THE ACTION**

4 1. Plaintiff Noemee Gabisan ("PLAINTIFF") brings this class action on behalf of
5 herself and a California class consisting of all individuals who are or previously were employed by
6 Defendant Pelican Products, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as "DEFENDANTS") in a as sales support
7 specialists, expeditors, commercial sales support, sales support, customer service staff member, or in
8 any other similarly situated position ("Sales Support Staff Member"), during the period four years
9 prior to the filing of this Complaint and ending on the date of as determined by the Court (the
10 "CLASS PERIOD"), who performed work in excess of eight (8) hours in one day and/or forty (40)
11 hours in one week and/or hours on the seventh (7th) consecutive day of a workweek and did not
12 receive overtime compensation as required by California Labor Code Section 510, Wage Order 15-
13 2001, and or the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C 201, et seq.

14 2. Although DEFENDANTS require their employees employed as Sales Support Staff
15 Members to work more than eight (8) hours a day, more than forty (40) hours a week, and work
16 hours on the seventh (7th) consecutive day of a work week, as a matter of policy and practice,
17 DEFENDANTS consistently and uniformly failed to properly classify these employees, and through
18 such practice, failed to record and pay such employees for hours worked, denying them the
19 compensation that the law requires.

20 3. PLAINTIFF, on behalf of herself and the CLASS of Sales Support Staff Members
21 similarly situated, seeks to have all such employees reclassified and recover all the compensation
22 that DEFENDANTS were required by law to provide, but failed to provide, to PLAINTIFF and all
23 other CLASS members, including but not limited to overtime compensation for overtime hours
24 worked, compensation for amounts not paid upon leaving employment and such other and further
25 compensation, penalties, and interest as shall be determined.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

4. This Court has jurisdiction over PLAINTIFF'S federal claim pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331, federal question jurisdiction, 29 U.S.C. § 219, the Fair Labor Standards Act, and 28 U.S.C. § 1367, supplemental jurisdiction of state law claims.

5. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) and (c), because DEFENDANTS do substantial business in this District and committed the wrongful conduct against certain members of the CLASS in San Diego County, California.

PARTIES

6. Plaintiff Noemee Gabisan has been employed by DEFENDANTS since September of 2006, in the state of California, as a "sales support specialist."

7. DEFENDANTS conducted and continue to conduct substantial and regular business in San Diego County, California, and throughout California. DEFENDANTS also conduct business throughout the United States and are an enterprise engaged in commerce within the meaning of the Fair Labor Standards Act by regularly and recurrently receiving or transmitting interstate communications.

8. The Defendants named in this Complaint, and Does 1 through 10, inclusive, are, and at all times mentioned herein were, the agents, servants, and/or employees of each of the other Defendant and each Defendant was acting within the course of scope of his, her or its authority as the agent, servant and/or employee of each of the other Defendant (the "DEFENDANTS"). Consequently, all the DEFENDANTS are jointly and severally liable to the PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CLASS, for the losses sustained as a proximate result of DEFENDANTS' conduct.

COLLECTIVE ACTION UNDER THE FLSA

9. PLAINTIFF brings this lawsuit as a collective action under the Fair Labor and Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. § 201, *et seq.* (the "FLSA"), on behalf of all persons who were, are, or will be employed by DEFENDANTS as Sales Support Staff Members during the period four years prior

1 to the filing of this Complaint and ending on the date of as determined by the Court (the
2 "COLLECTIVE CLASS PERIOD"), who performed work in excess of forty (40) hours in one week
3 and did not receive overtime compensation as required by the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C
4 201, et seq. To the extent equitable tolling operates to toll claims by the COLLECTIVE CLASS
5 against the DEFENDANTS, the COLLECTIVE CLASS PERIOD should be adjusted accordingly.
6 The COLLECTIVE CLASS includes all such persons, whether or not they were paid by
7 commission, by salary, or by part commission and part salary.

8 10. Questions of law and fact common to the COLLECTIVE CLASS as a whole, but not
9 limited to the following, include:

- 10 a. Whether DEFENDANTS misclassified PLAINTIFF and members of the
11 COLLECTIVE CLASS as exempt from receiving compensation for all hours
12 worked, including federal minimum wage compensation and overtime compensation;
13 b. Whether DEFENDANTS should be enjoined from continuing the practices which
14 violate the FLSA; and,
15 c. Whether DEFENDANTS are liable to the COLLECTIVE CLASS.

16 11. The first cause of action for the violations of the FLSA may be brought and
17 maintained as an "opt-in" collective action pursuant to Section 16(b) of FLSA, 29 U.S.C. 216(b), for
18 all claims asserted by the representative PLAINTIFF of the COLLECTIVE CLASS because the
19 claims of the PLAINTIFF are similar to the claims of the members of the prospective
20 COLLECTIVE CLASS.

21 12. PLAINTIFF and the COLLECTIVE CLASS are similarly situated,
22 have substantially similar job requirements and pay provisions, and are subject to DEFENDANTS'
23 common and uniform policy and practice of misclassifying their employees, failing to pay for all
24 actual time worked and wages earned, and failing to accurately record all hours worked by these
25 employees in violation of the FLSA and the Regulations implementing the Act as enacted by the
26 Secretary of Labor (the "REGULATIONS").
27
28

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

13. PLAINTIFF brings this action on behalf of herself in her individual capacity and also on behalf of a California Class of all employees of DEFENDANTS in California who were, are, or will be employed as Sales Support Staff Members during the period four years prior to the filing of this Complaint and ending on the date of judgment (the "CLASS PERIOD"), who performed work in excess of eight (8) hours in one day and/or forty (40) hours in one week and/or hours on the seventh (7th) consecutive day of a workweek and did not receive overtime compensation as required by California Labor Code Section 510 and Wage Order 15-2001. This class is hereinafter referred to as the "CALIFORNIA CLASS." The CALIFORNIA CLASS includes all such persons, whether or not they were paid by commission, by salary, or by part commission and part salary.

14. DEFENDANTS, as a matter of corporate policy, practice and procedure, and in violation of the applicable California Labor Code ("Labor Code") and Industrial Welfare Commission ("IWC") Wage Order Requirements intentionally, knowingly, and systematically misclassified the PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS as exempt from receiving compensation for all hours worked and other labor laws in order to avoid the payment of wages due for hours worked by misclassifying their positions as exempt. To the extent equitable tolling operates to toll claims by the CALIFORNIA CLASS against DEFENDANTS, the CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD should be adjusted accordingly.

15. DEFENDANTS violated the rights of the CALIFORNIA CLASS under California law by:

- (a) Committing an act of unfair competition in violation of the California Labor Code, by failing to pay PLAINTIFF and the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS all wages and compensation due for all hours worked in a work week.
- (b) Violating California law, including Cal. Labor Code § 204, by failing to pay PLAINTIFF and the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS pay for all work hours for which DEFENDANTS are liable pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code § 1194.

- 1 (c) Violating the Wage Order and California Code of Regulations § 11040 by
2 misclassifying PLAINTIFF and the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS
3 and failing to provide overtime compensation for all hours worked excess of
4 eight (8) hours in a day, forty (40) in a week, or for hours worked on the
5 seventh (7th) consecutive workday day.
- 6 (e) Violating Cal. Lab. Code § 203, which provides that when an employee is
7 discharged or quits from employment, the employer must pay the employee
8 all wages due without abatement, by failing to tender full payment and/or
9 restitution of wages owed or in the manner required by California law to the
10 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS who have terminated their
11 employment. Thus, DEFENDANTS are liable for such wages for a period of
12 thirty (30) days following the termination of such employment.
- 13 (f) Violating Cal. Lab. Code § 226, by failing to provide PLAINTIFF and the
14 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS with an accurate itemized statement
15 in writing showing the total hours worked by the employee.
- 16 (g) Violating the Wage Order and California Code of Regulations § 11040,
17 subsection 7, by failing to maintain accurate records of time and hours
18 worked in the payroll period and failing to make such information available
19 to employees.

20 16. This Class Action meets the statutory prerequisites for the maintenance of a Class
21 Action as set forth in Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure ("F.R.C.P."), in that:

- 22 (a) The persons who comprise the CALIFORNIA CLASS are so numerous that
23 the joinder of all such persons is impracticable and the disposition of their
24 claims as a class will benefit the parties and the Court;
- 25 (b) Nearly all factual, legal, statutory, declaratory and injunctive relief issues that
26 are raised in this Complaint are common to the CALIFORNIA CLASS and
27 will apply uniformly to every member of the CALIFORNIA CLASS;
- 28 (c) The claims of the representative PLAINTIFF are typical of the claims of each

1 member of the CALIFORNIA CLASS. PLAINTIFF, like all other members
2 of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, was systematically misclassified as exempt
3 from receiving overtime wages and sustained economic injuries arising from
4 DEFENDANTS' violations of the laws of California. PLAINTIFF and the
5 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS are similarly or identically harmed by
6 the same unlawful, deceptive, unfair and pervasive pattern of misconduct
7 engaged in by the DEFENDANTS of systematically misclassifying as exempt
8 all Sales Support Staff Members from receiving overtime wages.

- 9 (d) The representative PLAINTIFF will fairly and adequately represent and
10 protect the interest of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, and has retained counsel
11 who are competent and experienced in Class Action litigation. There are no
12 material conflicts between the claims of the representative PLAINTIFF and
13 the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS that would make class
14 certification inappropriate. Counsel for the CALIFORNIA CLASS will
15 vigorously assert the claims of all Class Members.

16 17. In addition to meeting the statutory prerequisites to a Class Action, this action is
17 properly maintained as a Class Action pursuant to F.R.C.P. 23, in that:

- 18 (a) Without class certification and determination of declaratory, injunctive,
19 statutory and other legal questions within the class format, prosecution of
20 separate actions by individual members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS will
21 create the risk of:
- 22 1) Inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to individual
23 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS which would establish
24 incompatible standards of conduct for the parties opposing the
25 CALIFORNIA CLASS; or,
- 26 2) Adjudication with respect to individual members of the
27 CALIFORNIA CLASS which would as a practical matter be
28 dispositive of interests of the other members not party to the

1 adjudication or substantially impair or impede their ability to protect
2 their interests.

3 (b) The parties opposing the CALIFORNIA CLASS have acted on grounds
4 generally applicable to the CALIFORNIA CLASS, making appropriate class-
5 wide relief with respect to the CALIFORNIA CLASS as a whole in that the
6 DEFENDANTS systematically misclassified all Sales Support Staff Members
7 as exempt from receiving overtime wages;

8 (c) Common questions of law and fact exist as to the members of the
9 CALIFORNIA CLASS and predominate over any question affecting only
10 individual members, and a Class Action is superior to other available
11 methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy, including
12 consideration of:

- 13 1) The interests of the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS in
14 individually controlling the prosecution or defense of separate actions;
- 15 2) The extent and nature of any litigation concerning the controversy
16 already commenced by or against members of the CALIFORNIA
17 CLASS;
- 18 3) The desirability or undesirability of concentrating the litigation of the
19 claims in the particular forum;
- 20 4) The difficulties likely to be encountered in the management of a Class
21 Action; and,
- 22 5) The basis of DEFENDANTS misclassifying PLAINTIFF and the
23 CALIFORNIA CLASS as exempt from receiving overtime
24 compensation.

25 18. This Court should permit this action to be maintained as a Class Action pursuant to
26 F.R.C.P. 23 because:

- 27 (a) The questions of law and fact common to the CALIFORNIA CLASS
28 predominate over any question affecting only individual members;

- 1 (b) A Class Action is superior to any other available method for the fair and
2 efficient adjudication of the claims of the members of the CALIFORNIA
3 CLASS;
- 4 (c) The members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS are so numerous that it is
5 impractical to bring all members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS before the
6 Court;
- 7 (d) PLAINTIFF, and the other CALIFORNIA CLASS members, will not be able
8 to obtain effective and economic legal redress unless the action is maintained
9 as a Class Action;
- 10 (e) There is a community of interest in obtaining appropriate legal and equitable
11 relief for the common law and statutory violations and other improprieties,
12 and in obtaining adequate compensation for the damages and injuries which
13 DEFENDANTS' actions have inflicted upon the CALIFORNIA CLASS;
- 14 (f) There is a community of interest in ensuring that the combined assets and
15 available insurance of DEFENDANTS are sufficient to adequately
16 compensate the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for the injuries
17 sustained;
- 18 (g) DEFENDANTS have acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable
19 to the CALIFORNIA CLASS, thereby making final class-wide relief
20 appropriate with respect to the CALIFORNIA CLASS as a whole; and
- 21 (h) The members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS are readily ascertainable from the
22 business records of the DEFENDANTS. The CALIFORNIA CLASS
23 consists of all of DEFENDANTS' employees employed as Sales Support
24 Staff Members in California who were classified as exempt from receiving
25 overtime wages. DEFENDANTS, as a matter of law, has the burden of
26 proving the basis for the exemption as to each and every Sales Support Staff
27 Member so classified. To the extent that DEFENDANTS have failed to
28 maintain records sufficient to establish the basis for the exemption (including

1 but not limited to, the employee's job duties, wages, and hours worked) for
2 any Sales Support Staff Member, DEFENDANTS are estopped, as a matter
3 of law, to assert the existence of the exemption.
4

5 GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

6 19. DEFENDANTS, as a matter of corporate policy, practice and procedure, and in
7 violation of the applicable California Labor Code ("Labor Code"), Industrial Welfare Commission
8 ("IWC") Wage Order Requirements, and the applicable provisions of the FLSA, intentionally,
9 knowingly, and wilfully, on the basis of job title alone and without regard to the actual overall
10 requirements of the job or compensation paid, systematically misclassified the PLAINTIFF and the
11 other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS and the COLLECTIVE CLASS (the "CLASS") as
12 exempt from receiving overtime wages. This practice of DEFENDANTS was intended to
13 purposefully avoid the payment of earned wages by misclassifying the PLAINTIFF and other Sales
14 Support Staff Members similarly situated as exempt. To the extent equitable tolling operates to toll
15 claims by the CLASS against DEFENDANTS, the CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD and the
16 COLLECTIVE CLASS PERIOD (the "CLASS PERIODS") should be adjusted accordingly.

17 20. DEFENDANTS have intentionally and deliberately created numerous job levels and
18 a multitude of job titles to create the superficial appearance of hundreds of unique jobs, when in
19 fact, these jobs are substantially similar and can be easily grouped together for the purpose of
20 determining whether they are entitled to wages for hours worked and whether DEFENDANTS were
21 required to maintain accurate time and hour records. Indeed, one of DEFENDANTS' purposes in
22 creating and maintaining this multi-level job classification scheme is to create a roadblock to
23 discovery and class certification for all employees similarly misclassified as exempt.
24 DEFENDANTS have uniformly misclassified these CLASS members as exempt and denied them
25 wages and other benefits to which they are entitled in order to unfairly cheat the competition and
26 unlawfully profit.

27 21. DEFENDANTS maintain records from which the Court can ascertain and identify
28 each of DEFENDANTS' employees who as CLASS members, have been systematically,

1 intentionally and uniformly misclassified as exempt from receiving overtime wages as a matter of
2 DEFENDANTS' corporate policy, practice and procedure. To the extent DEFENDANTS' have
3 assigned job titles, other than Sales Support Staff Members, to employees subjected to the practices
4 herein alleged, PLAINTIFF will seek leave to amend the complaint to include any additional job
5 titles when they have been identified.

6 22. DEFENDANTS maintain records from which the Court can ascertain and identify
7 each of DEFENDANTS' pay structures that systematically, intentionally and uniformly deprived
8 PLAINTIFF and the members of the CLASS from receiving wages for all hours worked as a matter
9 of DEFENDANTS' corporate policy, practice and procedure. PLAINTIFF will seek leave to
10 amend the complaint to detail these pay structures, whether such pay structures were comprised of
11 pay by commission, by salary, or by part commission and part salary.

12 13 THE CONDUCT

14 23. DEFENDANTS manufacture and sell watertight protective cases and technically
15 advanced professional flashlights to industrial, military, government, and specialty sports end
16 markets throughout the United States and in many international markets. PLAINTIFF and the other
17 Sales Support Staff Members functions as working members on the production side of the sales
18 business for DEFENDANTS. The primary job duty of PLAINTIFF and the Sales Support Staff
19 Members is to provide customer service to purchasers of DEFENDANTS' products. The customer
20 support services include answering phones, taking orders, processing orders, processing
21 cancellations, and answering questions regarding the warranties of that cover the products.
22 PLAINTIFF and the Sales Support Staff Members accomplish these tasks by referring to training
23 guides, manuals, and scripts, in which the rigidly defined parameters established by DEFENDANTS
24 are explicitly detailed.

25 24. In performing the conduct herein alleged, the DEFENDANTS uniformly
26 misrepresented to the PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CLASS that they were exempt
27 from overtime and the applicable state and federal labor laws, when in fact, they were not. The
28 DEFENDANTS' wrongful conduct and violations of law as herein alleged demeaned and

1 wrongfully deprived PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CLASS of the career opportunities
2 to which they were lawfully entitled. DEFENDANTS engaged in such wrongful conduct by failing
3 to have adequate employment policies and maintaining adequate employment practices consistent
4 with such policies. DEFENDANTS wrongful conduct as herein alleged converted the money
5 belonging to the PLAINTIFF and the other members of the CLASS.

6 25. In performing these routine tasks for DEFENDANTS at DEFENDANTS' offices, the
7 members of the CLASS have worked and continue to work for DEFENDANTS without being paid
8 the requisite overtime wages for all hours worked. During the Class Period, PLAINTIFF, and the
9 members of the CLASS worked and/or still work on the production side of the DEFENDANTS'
10 business, but are nevertheless misclassified as exempt.

11 26. Neither the PLAINTIFF, nor any member of the CLASS, was primarily engaged in
12 work of a type that was or now is directly related to the DEFENDANTS' management policies or
13 general business operations, when giving these words a fair but narrow construction. Neither the
14 PLAINTIFF, nor any member of the CLASS was primarily engaged in work of a type that was or
15 now is performed at the level of the policy or management of the DEFENDANTS. To the contrary,
16 the work of DEFENDANTS' Sales Support Staff Members is work wherein PLAINTIFF and
17 members of the CLASS are primarily engaged in the day to day business operations of the
18 DEFENDANTS, to use training guides, manuals and scripts to mechanically perform sales and
19 customer support tasks in accordance with the established criteria of the management policies and
20 general business operations established by DEFENDANTS' management. A Sales Support Staff
21 Members' work in performing these tasks does not permit judgment or discretion that is
22 independent, as this work is performed according to DEFENDANTS' established criteria and
23 procedures.

24 27. Considerations such as (a) DEFENDANTS' realistic expectations for the Sales
25 Support Staff Member jobs, on the production side of the DEFENDANTS' business enterprise, and
26 (b) the actual overall requirements of these jobs, are susceptible to common proof. The work that
27 PLAINTIFF and other members of the CLASS were and are primarily engaged in performing day to
28 day activities is the work that is required to be performed as part of the day to day business of

1 DEFENDANTS in selling the DEFENDANTS' products. As a result, PLAINTIFF and the other
2 members of the CLASS were and still are primarily engaged in work that falls squarely on the
3 production side of the administrative/production worker dichotomy.

4 28. DEFENDANTS systematically misclassified as exempt PLAINTIFF and all other
5 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS and COLLECTIVE CLASS solely on the basis of their job
6 title and without regard to DEFENDANTS' realistic expectations, the actual overall requirements of
7 the job, or the pay received by the employee. Consequently, PLAINTIFF and the other members of
8 the CALIFORNIA CLASS and COLLECTIVE CLASS were uniformly and systematically
9 exempted by DEFENDANTS from payment of wages due for hours worked during the CLASS
10 PERIOD.

11 29. Cal. Lab. Code § 515 appoints the Industrial Welfare Commission to establish
12 exemptions from the requirement that an overtime rate of compensation be paid pursuant to
13 Sections 510 and 511 for executive, administrative, and professional employees, provided that the
14 employee is primarily engaged in the duties that meet the test of the exemption, customarily and
15 regularly exercises discretion and independent judgment in performing those duties, and earns a
16 monthly salary equivalent to no less than two times the state minimum wage for full-time
17 employment. California Labor Code § 515 and Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Order 4-2001
18 (the "Wage Order") set forth the requirements which must be satisfied in order for an employee to
19 be lawfully classified as exempt from certain provisions of the Wage Order. Although wrongfully
20 classified by DEFENDANTS as exempt from certain requirements of the Wage Order at the time of
21 hire and thereafter, PLAINTIFF, and all other members of the similarly-situated CALIFORNIA
22 CLASS, are not exempt under Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Order 4-2001 (the "Wage
23 Order"), and Cal. Lab. Code § 515.

24 30. Section 13 of the FLSA and 29 Code of Federal Regulations Part 541, *et seq.*, set
25 forth the requirements which must be satisfied in order for an employee to be lawfully classified as
26 exempt. Although wrongfully classified by DEFENDANTS as exempt at the time of hire and
27 thereafter, PLAINTIFF, and all other members of the similarly-situated COLLECTIVE CLASS, are
28 not exempt under section 13 of the FLSA or the provisions of 29 C.F.R. 541, *et seq.*

1 DEFENDANTS' conduct as herein alleged was willful and not in good faith, and DEFENDANTS
2 had no reasonable grounds for believing that the alleged conduct was not a violation of the FLSA.

3 31. Despite the fact that PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CLASS, regularly
4 worked in excess of eight (8) hours a day and/or forty (40) hours per week and/or on the seventh
5 (7th) consecutive day of a work week, they did not receive overtime wages for the overtime hours
6 worked, and as a result suffered an economic injury.

7
8 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

9 **Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. §§ 201, *et seq.* ("FLSA")**

10 **(By PLAINTIFF and the COLLECTIVE CLASS and Against all DEFENDANTS)**

11 32. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the COLLECTIVE CLASS,
12 reallege and incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, paragraphs 1 through 31
13 of this Complaint.

14 33. DEFENDANTS are engaged in communication, business, and transmission
15 throughout the United States and are, therefore, engaged in commerce within the meaning of 29
16 U.S.C. § 203(b).

17 34. 29 U.S.C. § 255 provides that a three-year statute of limitations applies to willful
18 violations of the FLSA.

19 35. The Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. §201, *et seq.*, states that an employee must
20 be compensated for all hours worked, including all straight time compensation and overtime
21 compensation. 29 C.F.R. §778.223 and 29 C.F.R. §778.315. This Court has concurrent jurisdiction
22 over claims involving the Fair Labor Standards Act pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216.

23 36. Section 213(a)(1) of the FLSA provides that the overtime pay requirement does not
24 apply to:

25 any employee employed in a bona fide executive, administrative, or professional
26 capacity (including any employee employed in the capacity of academic
27 administrative personnel or teacher in elementary or secondary schools), or in the
28 capacity of outside salesman (as such terms are defined and delimited from time to

1 time by regulations of the Secretary, subject to the provisions of the Administrative
2 Procedure Act [5 USCS §§ 551 *et seq.*] except [that] an employee of a retail or
3 service establishment shall not be excluded from the definition of employee
4 employed in a bona fide executive or administrative capacity because of the number
5 of hours in his workweek which he devotes to activities not directly or closely related
6 to the performance of executive or administrative activities, if less than 40 per
7 centum of his hours worked in the workweek are devoted to such activities).

8 37. DEFENDANTS have willfully engaged in a widespread pattern and practice of
9 violating the provisions of the FLSA, as detailed above, by uniformly designating certain employees
10 as "exempt" employees, by their job title and without regard to DEFENDANTS' realistic
11 expectations and actual overall requirements of the job and without regard to the fact that
12 PLAINTIFF and the other members of the COLLECTIVE CLASS worked on the production side of
13 the DEFENDANTS' business enterprise. This was done in an illegal attempt to avoid payment of
14 minimum wages, overtime wages and other benefits in violation of the FLSA and Code of Federal
15 Regulations requirements.

16 38. Pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. § 201, *et seq.*, PLAINTIFF and
17 the members of the COLLECTIVE CLASS are entitled to compensation at a rate not less than one
18 and one-half times their regular rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of forty (40) hours in any
19 workweek.

20 39. 29 C.F.R. 541.2 establishes that a job title alone is insufficient to establish the
21 exempt status of an employee. The exempt or nonexempt status of any particular employee must be
22 determined on the basis of whether the employee's salary and duties meet the requirements of the
23 regulations in this part.

24 40. For an employee to be exempt as a bona fide "executive," all the
25 following criteria must be met and DEFENDANTS have the burden of proving that:

26 (a) The employee's primary duty must be management of the enterprise, or of a
27 customarily recognized department or subdivision;

28 (b) The employee must customarily and regularly direct the work of at least two (2) or

1 more other employees;

2 (c) The employee must have the authority to hire and fire, or to command particularly
3 serious attention to his or his recommendations on such actions affecting other
4 employees; and,

5 (d) The employee must be primarily engaged in duties which meet the test of exemption.

6 No member of the COLLECTIVE CLASS was or is an executive because they all fail to meet the
7 requirements of being an "executive" under section 13 of the FLSA and 29 C.F.R. 541.100.

8 41. For an employee to be exempt as a bona fide "administrator," all of the
9 following criteria must be met and DEFENDANTS have the burden of proving that:

10 (a) The employee must perform office or non-manual work directly related to
11 management or general business operation of the employer or the employer's
12 customers;

13 (b) The employee must customarily and regularly exercise discretion and independent
14 judgment with respect to matters of significance; and,

15 (c) The employee must regularly and directly assist a proprietor or an exempt
16 administrator; or,

17 (d) The employee must perform under only general supervision, work requiring special
18 training, experience, or knowledge; and,

19 (e) The employee must be primarily engaged in duties which meet the test of exemption.

20 No member of the COLLECTIVE CLASS was or is an administrator because they all fail to meet
21 the requirements for being an "administrator" under section 13(a) of the FLSA and 29 C.F.R.
22 541.202. PLAINTIFF and the other members of the COLLECTIVE CLASS perform their primary,
23 day to day duties without the requisite amount of discretion and independent judgment needed to
24 qualify for the administrative exemption.

25 42. During the COLLECTIVE CLASS PERIOD, the PLAINTIFF, and other
26 members of the COLLECTIVE CLASS, worked more than forty (40) hours in a work week.

27 43. For purposes of the Fair Labor Standards Act, the employment practices of
28 DEFENDANTS were and are uniform throughout California in all respects material to the claims

1 asserted in this Complaint.

2 44. As a result of DEFENDANTS' failure to pay overtime compensation for overtime
3 hours worked, as required by the FLSA, PLAINTIFF and the members of the COLLECTIVE
4 CLASS were damaged in an amount to be proved at trial.

5 45. PLAINTIFF, therefore, demands that she and the members of the COLLECTIVE
6 CLASS be paid overtime compensation as required by the FLSA for every hour of overtime worked
7 in any work week for which they were not compensated plus interest and attorneys' fees as provided
8 by law.

9
10 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

11 **For Failure To Pay Earned Wages and Overtime Compensation**

12 **[Cal. Lab. Code §§ 204, 210, 510, 1194, 1197 and 1198]**

13 **(By PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS and Against all Defendants)**

14 46. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, reallege and
15 incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, paragraphs 1 through 45 of this
16 Complaint.

17 47. Cal. Lab. Code § 204 requires employers to pay employees for all hours worked as
18 follows: "all wages... ..earned by any person in any employment are due and payable twice during
19 each calendar month, on days designated in advance by the employer as the regular paydays." Cal.
20 Lab. Code § 510 further provides that employees in California shall not be employed more than
21 eight (8) hours in any workday or forty (40) hours in a workweek or on a seventh (7th) consecutive
22 workday of a workweek unless they receive additional compensation beyond their regular wages in
23 amounts specified by law.

24 48. Cal. Lab. Code § 551 states that, "Every person employed in any occupation of labor
25 is entitled to one day's rest therefrom in seven."

26 49. Cal. Lab. Code § 552 states that, "No employer of labor shall cause his employees to
27 work more than six days in seven."
28

1 50. Cal. Lab. Code § 1194 states:

2 Notwithstanding any agreement to work for a lesser wage, any employee receiving
3 less than the legal minimum wage or the legal overtime compensation applicable to
4 the employee is entitled to recover in a civil action the unpaid balance of the full
5 amount of this minimum wage or overtime compensation, including interest thereon,
6 reasonable attorney's fees, and costs of suit.

7 51. Cal. Lab. Code § 1198 provides:

8 The maximum hours of work and the standard conditions of labor fixed by the
9 commission shall be the maximum hours of work and the standard conditions of
10 labor for employees. The employment of any employee for longer hours than those
11 fixed by the order or under conditions of labor prohibited by the order is unlawful.

12 52. DEFENDANTS have intentionally and uniformly designated certain employees as
13 “exempt” from receiving wages for all hours worked and from receiving certain other rights, by
14 their job title and without regard to DEFENDANTS’ realistic expectations, the requirements of the
15 job, and the method of payment made by DEFENDANTS, including PLAINTIFF and the other
16 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS who worked on the production side of the DEFENDANTS’
17 business enterprise. This was done in an illegal attempt to avoid payment of regular and overtime
18 wages and other benefits in violation of the Cal. Lab. Code and Industrial Welfare Commission
19 requirements.

20 53. Only employees whose primary job duties meet the test of exemption as a(n)
21 “executive,” “administrator,” “professional,” or as an “outside salesperson” may be exempt from
22 the provisions of the Wage Order that require the payment of overtime. The primary job duties of
23 the PLAINTIFF and the members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS would not qualify these employees
24 to meet either of these exemptions.

25 54. For an employee to be exempt as a bona fide “executive,” all the following criteria
26 must be met and DEFENDANTS have the burden of proving that:

- 27 (a) The employee’s primary duty must be management of the enterprise, or of a
28 customarily recognized department or subdivision; and,

1 (b) The employee must customarily and regularly direct the work of at least two (2) or
2 more other employees; and,

3 (c) The employee must have the authority to hire and fire, or to command particularly
4 serious attention to his or his recommendations on such actions affecting other
5 employees; and,

6 (d) The employee must customarily and regularly exercise discretion and independent
7 judgment; and,

8 (e) The employee must be primarily engaged in duties which meet the test of exemption.

9 No member of the CALIFORNIA CLASS was or is an executive because they all fail to meet the
10 requirements of being an "executive" within the meaning of Order No. 4-2001.

11 55. For an employee to be exempt as a bona fide "administrator," all of the following
12 criteria must be met and DEFENDANTS have the burden of proving that:

13 (a) The employee must perform office or non-manual work directly related to
14 management policies or general business operation of the employer; and,

15 (b) The employee must customarily and regularly exercise discretion and independent
16 judgment; and,

17 (c) The employee must regularly and directly assist a proprietor or an exempt
18 administrator; or,

19 (d) The employee must perform, under only general supervision, work requiring special
20 training, experience, or knowledge, or,

21 (e) The employee must execute special assignments and tasks under only general
22 supervision; and,

23 (f) The employee must be primarily engaged in duties which meet the test of exemption.

24 No member of the CALIFORNIA CLASS was or is an administrator because they all fail to meet
25 the requirements for being an "administrator" under Order No. 4-2001.

26 56. The Industrial Welfare Commission, ICW Wage Order 4-2001 also sets forth the
27 requirements which must be complied with to place an employee in the "professional" exempt
28 category. For an employee to be exempt as a bona fide professional, all the following criteria must

1 be met:

2 (a) The employee must primarily perform work that is intellectual or creative and
3 that requires the exercise of discretion and independent judgment.

4 (b) The employee must be licensed or certified by the state of California and is
5 primarily engaged in the practice of one of the following recognized
6 professions: law, medicine, dentistry, optometry, architecture, engineering,
7 teaching or accounting.

8 No member of the CALIFORNIA CLASS was or is an administrator because they all fail to meet
9 the requirements for being an "professional" under Order No. 4-2001.

10 57. PLAINTIFF, and other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, are not outside
11 salespersons within the meaning of the Wage Order because they did not and do not customarily and
12 regularly work more than half their working time away from the employer's place of business
13 selling tangible or intangible items or obtaining orders or contracts for products, services or use of
14 facilities.

15 58. During the class period, the PLAINTIFF, and other members of the CALIFORNIA
16 CLASS, worked more than eight (8) hours in a workday and/or forty (40) hours in a work week
17 and/or on the seventh (7th) consecutive day of a workweek.

18 59. At all relevant times, DEFENDANTS failed to pay PLAINTIFF, and other members
19 of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, overtime compensation for the hours they worked in excess of the
20 maximum hours permissible by law as required by Cal. Lab. Code §§ 510 and 1198, *et seq.* and the
21 Wage Order, even though PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS,
22 worked regular hours at DEFENDANTS' offices, and did in fact work overtime hours for
23 DEFENDANTS.

24 60. By virtue of DEFENDANTS' unlawful failure to pay additional compensation to the
25 PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, for their regular and overtime
26 hours, the PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, have suffered, and
27 will continue to suffer, an economic injury in amounts which are presently unknown to them and
28 which will be ascertained according to proof at trial.

1 61. DEFENDANTS knew or should have known that PLAINTIFF, and the other
2 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, were misclassified as exempt from wages and
3 DEFENDANTS systematically elected, either through intentional malfeasance or gross nonfeasance,
4 not to pay them for their labor as a matter of uniform corporate policy, practice and procedure.

5 62. Therefore, PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS,
6 request recovery of regular and overtime compensation according to proof, interest, attorney's fees
7 and costs pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code § 1194(a), as well as the assessment of any statutory penalties
8 against DEFENDANTS, in a sum as provided by the Cal. Lab. Code and/or other statutes.

9 63. In performing the acts and practices herein alleged in violation of labor laws and
10 refusing to provide the requisite regular and overtime compensation, the DEFENDANTS acted and
11 continue to act intentionally, oppressively, and maliciously toward the PLAINTIFF, and toward the
12 other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, with a conscious and utter disregard of their legal
13 rights, or the consequences to them, and with the despicable intent of depriving them of their
14 property and legal rights and otherwise causing them injury in order to increase corporate profits at
15 the expense of PLAINTIFF and the members of the Class.

16 17 **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**

18 **For Failure to Pay Wages When Due**

19 **[Cal. Lab. Code § 203]**

20 **(By PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS and Against All DEFENDANTS)**

21 64. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, reallege and
22 incorporate by reference, as though fully set forth herein, paragraphs 1 through 63 of this Complaint.

23 65. Cal. Lab. Code § 200 provides that:

24 As used in this article:

25 (a) "Wages" includes all amounts for labor performed by employees of every
26 description, whether the amount is fixed or ascertained by the standard of time, task,
27 piece, commission basis, or other method of calculation.

28 (b) "Labor" includes labor, work, or service whether rendered or performed under

1 contract, subcontract, partnership, station plan, or other agreement if the labor to be
2 paid for is performed personally by the person demanding payment.

3 66. Cal. Lab. Code § 202 provides, in relevant part, that:

4 If an employee not having a written contract for a definite period quits his or her
5 employment, his or her wages shall become due and payable not later than 72 hours
6 thereafter, unless the employee has given 72 hours previous notice of his or her
7 intention to quit, in which case the employee is entitled to his or her wages at the
8 time of quitting. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an employee who quits
9 without providing a 72-hour notice shall be entitled to receive payment by mail if he
10 or she so requests and designates a mailing address. The date of the mailing shall
11 constitute the date of payment for purposes of the requirement to provide payment
12 within 72 hours of the notice of quitting.

13 67. Cal. Lab. Code § 203 provides:

14 If an employer willfully fails to pay, without abatement or reduction, in accordance
15 with Sections 201, 201.5, 202, and 205.5, any wages of an employee who is
16 discharged or who quits, the wages of the employee shall continue as a penalty from
17 the due date thereof at the same rate until paid or until an action therefor is
18 commenced; but the wages shall not continue for more than 30 days.

19 68. Many of the CALIFORNIA CLASS members, including the PLAINTIFF, have
20 terminated their employment and DEFENDANTS have not tendered payment of wages owed.

21 69. Therefore, as provided by Cal lab. Code § 203, on behalf of herself and the
22 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, PLAINTIFF demands thirty days of pay as penalty for not
23 paying all wages due at time of termination for all employees who terminated employment during
24 the CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD and demand an accounting and payment of all wages due as
25 allowed by law.
26
27
28

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

For Failure to Provide Accurate Itemized Statements

[Cal. Lab. Code § 226]

(By PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS and against All DEFENDANTS)

70. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, reallege and incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, paragraphs 1 through 69 of this Complaint.

71. Cal. Labor Code § 226 provides that an employer must furnish employees with an "accurate itemized statement in writing showing:

- (1) gross wages earned,
- (2) total hours worked by the employee, except for any employee whose compensation is solely based on a salary and who is exempt from payment of overtime under subdivision (a) of Section 515 or any applicable order of the Industrial Welfare Commission,
- (3) the number of piecerate units earned and any applicable piece rate if the employee is paid on a piece-rate basis,
- (4) all deductions, provided that all deductions made on written orders of the employee may be aggregated and shown as one item,
- (5) net wages earned,
- (6) the inclusive dates of the period for which the employee is paid,
- (7) the name of the employee and his or her social security number, except that by January 1, 2008, only the last four digits of his or her social security number or an employee identification number other than a social security number may be shown on the itemized statement,
- (8) the name and address of the legal entity that is the employer, and
- (9) all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay period and the corresponding number of hours worked at each hourly rate by the employee."

72. At all times relevant herein, DEFENDANTS violated Labor Code § 226, in that DEFENDANTS failed to properly and accurately itemize the number of hours worked by

1 PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS at the effective regular rates of
2 pay and the effective overtime rates of pay.

3 73. Both the Wage Order at Section 7 and California Code of Regulations § 11040(7)
4 further require that every employer to do the following:

5 Every employer shall keep accurate information with respect to each employee
6 including the following:

7 (1) Full name, home address, occupation and social security number.

8 (2) Birth date, if under 18 years, and designation as a minor.

9 (3) Time records showing when the employee begins and ends each work period. Meal
10 periods, split shift intervals and total daily hours worked shall also be recorded. Meal periods
11 during which operations cease and authorized rest periods need not be recorded.

12 (4) Total wages paid each payroll period, including value of board, lodging, or other
13 compensation actually furnished to the employee.

14 (5) Total hours worked in the payroll period and applicable rates of pay. This information
15 shall be made readily available to the employee upon reasonable request.

16 (6) When a piece rate or incentive plan is in operation, piece rates or an explanation of the
17 incentive plan formula shall be provided to employees. An accurate production record shall
18 be maintained by the employer.

19 74. At all times relevant herein, DEFENDANTS violated Section 7 of the Wage Order
20 and California Code of Regulations § 11040(7) in that DEFENDANTS failed to properly and
21 accurately maintain information of the PLAINTIFF and other members of the CALIFORNIA
22 CLASS, consisting of time records showing when the employee begins and ends each work period
23 and the total hours worked in the payroll period with applicable rates of pay. Further,
24 DEFENDANTS failed to make such information available to employees.

25 75. DEFENDANTS knowingly and intentionally failed to comply with Labor Code §§
26 226, Section 7 of the Wage Order, and California Code of Regulations § 11040(7), causing
27 economic injury to PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS. These
28 damages include, but are not limited to, costs expended calculating the true hours worked and the

1 amount of employment taxes which were not properly paid to state and federal tax authorities.
2 These damages are difficult to estimate. Therefore, PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the
3 CLASS are entitled to recover liquidated damages of \$50.00 for the initial pay period in which the
4 violation occurred, and \$100.00 for each violation in subsequent pay period pursuant to Labor Code
5 § 226, in an amount according to proof at the time of trial (but in no event more than \$4,000.00 for
6 PLAINTIFF and each respective member of the CALIFORNIA CLASS herein) plus reasonable
7 attorney's fees and costs pursuant to Labor Code § 226(g).

8
9 **FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

10 **For Unlawful, Unfair and Deceptive Business Practices**

11 **[Cal. Bus. And Prof. Code § 17200 *et seq.*]**

12 **(By PLAINTIFF and the CALIFORNIA CLASS and against All DEFENDANTS)**

13 76. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, reallege and
14 incorporate by this reference, as though fully set forth herein, paragraphs 1 through 75 of this
15 Complaint.

16 77. DEFENDANTS are "persons" as that term is defined under California Business &
17 Professions Code § 17021.

18 78. California Business & Professions Code § 17200 defines unfair competition as any
19 unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent business act or practice.

20 79. By the conduct alleged hereinabove in the First through Fourth Claims for Relief,
21 DEFENDANTS have violated the provisions of the Wage Orders, the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29
22 USC §201, the REGULATIONS, the California Labor Code, the Code of Federal Regulations and
23 the California Code of Regulations, *et seq.*, for which this Court should issue equitable and
24 injunctive relief, pursuant to Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203, including restitution of wages
25 wrongfully withheld or labor taken without proper compensation.

26 80. By and through the unfair and unlawful business practices described hereinabove,
27 DEFENDANTS have obtained valuable property, money, and services from the PLAINTIFF, and
28 the other members of the CLASS, and has deprived them of valuable rights and benefits guaranteed

1 by law, all to their detriment and to the benefit of DEFENDANTS so as to allow DEFENDANTS to
2 unfairly compete.

3 81. All the acts described herein as violations of, among other things, the Cal. Lab. Code,
4 California Code of Regulations, and the Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders, are unlawful
5 and in violation of public policy, are immoral, unethical, oppressive, and unscrupulous, and thereby
6 constitute unfair and unlawful business practices in violation of Cal. Bus. and Prof. Code § 17200 *et*
7 *seq.*

8 82. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, are further
9 entitled to, and do, seek a declaration that the above described business practices are unfair and
10 unlawful and that an injunctive relief should be issued restraining DEFENDANTS from engaging in
11 any of these unfair and unlawful business practices in the future.

12 83. PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, have no plain,
13 speedy, and/or adequate remedy at law that will end the unfair and unlawful business practices of
14 DEFENDANTS. Further, the practices herein alleged presently continue to occur unabated. As a
15 result of the unfair and unlawful business practices described above, PLAINTIFF, and the other
16 members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS, have suffered and will continue to suffer irreparable harm
17 unless DEFENDANTS are restrained from continuing to engage in these unfair and unlawful
18 business practices. In addition, DEFENDANTS should be required to disgorge the unpaid moneys
19 to PLAINTIFF, and the other members of the CALIFORNIA CLASS.

20
21 **PRAYER**

22 WHEREFOR, PLAINTIFF prays for judgment against each Defendant, jointly and severally,
23 as follows:

- 24 A) Compensatory damages, according to proof at trial due PLAINTIFF and the other
25 members of the COLLECTIVE CLASS and CALIFORNIA CLASS, during the
26 applicable COLLECTIVE CLASS PERIOD and CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD
27 plus interest thereon at the statutory rate;
28 B) Restitution, according to proof at trial, due PLAINTIFF and the other members of the

CALIFORNIA CLASS, during the applicable CALIFORNIA CLASS PERIOD plus interest thereon at the statutory rate;

- C) One (1) hour of pay for each workday in which a meal period was not provided to PLAINTIFF and each member of the CALIFORNIA CLASS for each four (4) hours of work during the period commencing on the date that is within four years prior to the filing of this Complaint;
- D) An order temporarily, preliminarily and permanently enjoining and restraining DEFENDANTS from engaging in similar unlawful conduct as set forth herein;
- E) An order requiring DEFENDANTS to provide an accounting of all hours worked, all wages, and all sums unlawfully withheld from compensation due to PLAINTIFF and the other members of the COLLECTIVE and CALIFORNIA CLASSES;
- F) Imposition of a constructive trust upon the assets of the DEFENDANTS to the extent of the sums due to PLAINTIFF and to the other members of the COLLECTIVE and CALIFORNIA CLASSES;
- G) An award of interest, including prejudgment interest at the legal rate;
- H) An award of liquidated damages, statutory damages, including reasonable attorneys' fees and cost of suit, but only to the extent that such reasonable attorneys' fees and costs are recoverable pursuant to Cal. Lab. Code §1194 or the FLSA at 29 U.S.C. §216. Neither this prayer nor any other allegation or prayer in this Complaint is to be construed as a request, under any circumstance, that would result in a request for attorneys' fees or costs available under Cal. Lab. Code § 218.5;
- I) For liquidated damages pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b); and,
- K) Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: July 25, 2008

BLUMENTHAL & NORDREHAUG

By:

Norman B. Blumenthal
Attorneys for Plaintiff

1 UNITED EMPLOYEES LAW GROUP
2 Walter Haines, Esq.
3 65 Pine Ave, #312
4 Long Beach, CA 90802
5 Telephone: (562) 256-1047
6 Facsimile: (562) 256-1006
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DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff demands a jury trial on issues triable to a jury.

Dated: July 25, 2008

BLUMENTHAL & NORDREHAUG

By:

Norman B. Blumenthal
Attorneys for Plaintiff

UNITED EMPLOYEES LAW GROUP
Walter Haines, Esq.
65 Pine Ave, #312
Long Beach, CA 90802
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Facsimile: (562) 256-1006

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**UNITED STATES
DISTRICT COURT**
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN DIEGO DIVISION

153434 - TC

**July 28, 2008
16:22:12**

Civ Fil Non-Pris

USAO #: 08-1361

Judge.: JEFFREY T MILLER

Amount.: \$350.00 CK

Check#: BC11404

Total-> \$350.00

**FROM: NOEMEE GABISAN
VS.
PELICAN PRODUCTS**

JS 44 (Rev. 12/07)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

ORIGINAL
FILED

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by the local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS

NOEMEE GABISAN, on behalf of herself, and on behalf of all persons similarly situated,

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Los Angeles

(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

(c) Attorney's (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)

BLUMENTHAL & NORDREHAUG, 2255 Calle Clara,
La Jolla, California 92037

DEFENDANTS

PELICAN PRODUCTS, INC.; and DOES 1 to 10,

08 JUL 28 PM 4:21

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant San Diego
(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE LAND INVOLVED.

Attorneys (If Known)

DEPUTY

08 CV 1361 JM NLS

II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- ☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff
- ☒ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)
- ☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant
- ☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)

- | | PTF | DEF | | PTF | DEF |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Citizen of This State | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4 |
| Citizen of Another State | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | Foreign Nation | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 |

IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
<input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act <input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument <input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment <input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act <input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl. Veterans) <input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits <input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract <input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise	PERSONAL INJURY <input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane <input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander <input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers' Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury PERSONAL INJURY <input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury - Med. Malpractice <input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPERTY <input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud <input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending <input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage <input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 610 Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> 620 Other Food & Drug <input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 <input type="checkbox"/> 630 Liquor Laws <input type="checkbox"/> 640 R.R. & Truck <input type="checkbox"/> 650 Airline Regs. <input type="checkbox"/> 660 Occupational Safety/Health <input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other LABOR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act <input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations <input type="checkbox"/> 730 Labor/Mgmt. Reporting & Disclosure Act <input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act <input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation <input type="checkbox"/> 791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act IMMIGRATION <input type="checkbox"/> 462 Naturalization Application <input type="checkbox"/> 463 Habeas Corpus - Alien Detainee <input type="checkbox"/> 465 Other Immigration Actions	<input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 <input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS <input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights <input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent <input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY <input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395f) <input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923) <input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) <input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI <input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS <input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) <input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS--Third Party 26 USC 7609	<input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV <input type="checkbox"/> 810 Selective Service <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 875 Customer Challenge 12 USC 3410 <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts <input type="checkbox"/> 892 Economic Stabilization Act <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 894 Energy Allocation Act <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act <input type="checkbox"/> 900 Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access to Justice <input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
REAL PROPERTY <input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation <input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure <input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment <input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land <input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property	CIVIL RIGHTS <input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting <input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/Accommodations <input type="checkbox"/> 444 Welfare <input type="checkbox"/> 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other <input type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights	PRISONER PETITIONS <input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence Habeas Corpus: <input type="checkbox"/> 530 General <input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty <input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus & Other <input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 555 Prison Condition		

V. ORIGIN

(Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- ☒ Original Proceeding
- ☐ 2 Removed from State Court
- ☐ 3 Remanded from Appellate Court
- ☐ 4 Reinstated or Reopened
- ☐ 5 Transferred from another district (specify)
- ☐ 6 Multidistrict Litigation
- ☐ 7 Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity): 29 USC 201, et seq.

Brief description of cause:

Class and Collective Action for Unpaid Overtime

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:

☒ CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER F.R.C.P. 23

DEMAND \$

CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:

JURY DEMAND: ☒ Yes ☐ No

VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY

(See instructions):

JUDGE

DOCKET NUMBER

DATE

7/24/08

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIPT #

153434

AMOUNT

\$350

APPLYING IFP

JUDGE

MAG. JUDGE

TAL

7/28/08